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WHICH ONE ARE YOU?

Artist Kim Danio and her dog Terra sit amid some of her cat and dog art at her home in Hammonds Plains on Thursday. Argyle Fine Art is hosting a show entitled "Cat Person. Dog Person" and Danio's artwork will be part of the show. See story, page 6.

JEFF HARPER/METRO

The Big Lift
is set to begin

Macdonald. Overnight closures won't create traffic issues, says bridge commission

pieces won't be added until August, MacDonald said. "We don't expect any kind of congestion on the MacKay Bridge, to accommodate that there's plenty of capacity," she said.

After years of planning and months of public speculation, Halifax residents will finally discover whether we can do without the Macdonald Bridge overnight.

On Sunday starting at 7 p.m., Halifax Harbour Bridges (HBB) launches its \$150-million redecking project dubbed The Big Lift, and will be closing overnight five out of seven days each week until 5:30 a.m.

The closures run from Sunday to Thursday for the next 18 months as crews begin measuring the bridge and putting reinforcements under the structure. "We're feeling very confident," HBB spokeswoman Alison MacDonald said Thursday.

Bicyclists and pedestrians can still cross until June 29.

The morning reopening isn't in danger of running behind schedule for the first few months since the larger deck

Although the closure could mean an expensive cab ride if you're travelling to or from southern Halifax and Dartmouth, Casino Taxi president Brian Herman said he's not concerned about their calls dropping.

It's likely many will get dropped off on either side of the MacDonald then walk across before hopping in another cab, he said.

"It will simply be an inconvenience," Herman said.

On weekday nights when the Halifax Mooseheads play, MacDonald said traffic could be slow for those heading back to Dartmouth but they are working with the QMJHL team to remind fans about the detour.

MacDonald also said they've worked with the province and city to ensure no construction that could slow traffic leading to the MacKay occurs over the next year and a half.

HALEY RYAN/METRO

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Crime

Halifax police flood school after threatening call made to NSCC Akerley campus

Police in Halifax flooded the NSCC Akerley campus in Dartmouth on Thursday evening after a threatening call was made.

Police say the call was made to the school around 5:15 p.m., with the person on the line indicating harm would be done to people if they left the campus.

Officers from both Halifax Regional Police and Halifax RCMP, along with the HRP Emergency Response Team, arrived on scene and escorted people from the building, before a sweep was performed.

In a release to media at about 9:40 p.m. Thursday, police say they found no threat to public safety on campus.

The integrated criminal investigation division is now looking into the threat to determine its legitimacy and where the call originated from.

NSCC confirmed the school was under lockdown 15 minutes after the threat was reported. They cancelled all evening activities on campus and lifted the lockdown at 9:45 p.m. when police gave the all clear.

They said the campus would stay closed overnight but reopen for regular classes and activities Friday.

METRO

On the web

For more local news, go to metronews.ca

Commuter rail takes shape in Halifax

Transit. Open house lays out preliminary proposals for route, station locations, schedules, costs, ridership



RUTH DAVENPORT
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After years of hypothetical discussions, the first proposals for commuter rail in Halifax were unveiled to an eagerly receptive audience, prompting animated discussions of the pros and cons — but mostly pros.

"I filled out a comment card and my first comment was 'great idea,'" said Terry Robbins of Bedford. "Take it out as far as you can."

An open house held at Sunnyside Mall Thursday evening was packed with residents — many from Windsor Junction, Fall River, Sackville and other potential stops on the commuter line — who strolled down a line of posterboards detailing the findings of consultant CPCIS.

The feasibility study proposes a route following CN's mainline, Bedford Subdivision, running from the Via station on Hollis Street as far as Elmsdale.

Eleven locations have been identified for potential stations, all meeting the criteria for accessibility by active transportation modes, proximity to Halifax



Trains are lined up along the tracks near the Bedford Basin on Thursday. After years of hypothetical discussion, the first proposals for commuter rail in Halifax were unveiled to an eagerly receptive audience, prompting animated discussions of the pros and cons — but mostly pros. JEFF HARPER/METRO

At a glance

- **1,600 to 4,000.** The estimated number of weekday boardings.
- **9 to 24 per cent.** The estimated initial cost recovery ratio.

Transit stops or terminals, as well as arterial or highway networks.

The capital costs range from \$26 million for a low-traffic service going only as far as Cobequid to \$130 million for a high-traffic scenario running as far as Elmsdale — though several people said those costs could easily be reduced.

"They don't even need to have capital costs, they could do a lease management," said Greg, an open-house participant from Lower Sackville. "Whoever supplies the cars supplies the cars, the staff, the maintenance. So all you have to do is pay CN for the upgrades."

Coun. Tim Outhit, the regional councillor who has led the charge for commut-

er rail, agreed that the costs could easily be managed, though he said the figures have to be kept in perspective.

"Consider we spent \$14 million on the bus terminal ... \$20 million to widen just a couple of blocks of Bayers Road," he said. "There's been \$150 million spent on transit over the past few years, on capital. It's \$107 million

a year on operating."

Anyone who wasn't able to attend the open house can access the slides and posterboard material online at halifax.ca/transit/commuterrail.php and email Halifax Transit with feedback.

Outhit said while the details remain to be finalized, councillors now have some sense of the possible solutions to clearing the peninsula's clogged road network.

"All we're looking for is the data to make a decision instead of talking about it for another 20 years," he said. "And if we don't do this, what do we do instead? Is it going to be more buses, more ferries, is it going to be total and complete gridlock so we have to stop growing?"

1 NEWS

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Testing out a new look for Argyle



A pedestrian crosses Argyle Street on Thursday. The transportation standing committee has given its approval to a proposed trial project that would see Argyle transformed into a shared space between vehicles and pedestrians.

JEFF HARPER/METRO

Downtown. Proposed pilot project would eliminate curbs and sidewalks on popular route to try out 'shared-street' concept



RUTH DAVENPORT
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A pilot project is taking shape that would make a popular downtown street a shared space between pedestrians and low-speed vehicles.

HRM's transportation standing committee voted Thursday in favour of a recommendation for regional council to approve the trial demonstration of an "alternative street design concept" on Argyle Street, between Blowers and Sackville streets.

"We want to try stuff, we want to measure what works and what doesn't, and then use that to then form the basis of what the permanent changes might be," explained Downtown Halifax Business Commission executive director Paul MacKinnon after the committee meeting.

"I think the desire is really to just bring out the best of

Quoted

"It's taking one of the streets that works well in the city and saying, let's really celebrate it and embrace that and eventually put some more public infrastructure dollars into it."

Paul MacKinnon, Downtown Halifax Business Commission

what Argyle has kind of become organically, anyway."

The commission hired the non-profit Planning and Design Centre to draft the shared street concept plan in 2012 in anticipation of council's \$50-million beautification plan for the downtown core.

It calls for the replacement of barrier curbs and asphalt with a surface that is "easy to traverse on foot and removes the common distinction between the pedestrian space (the sidewalk) and the motor-vehicle space (the roadway)," according to a city staff report.

MacKinnon said it essentially erases the boundaries between sidewalk and street, leaving pedestrians free to roam at the sides, where a

conventional sidewalk would be, or in the central corridor, which vehicles could still use.

The city staff report notes the idea supports municipal principles and a policy of making streetscape improvements to better support high volumes of pedestrians.

In addition, the city staff report notes the design actually reduces the chances of car-pedestrian accidents.

"When there's uncertainty like that, cars slow right down because they're not quite sure what they're supposed to be doing. So that actually minimizes accidents," said MacKinnon.

The pilot project, which will cost about \$40,000, is expected to run for six weeks this spring or summer.

Coun. Wayne Mason questioned the proposed six-week time frame for the pilot.

"The trial that they did in Times Square was six months, so they got some seasonal change throughout," said Mason. "So don't we want to know what that might be like when we're doing snow removal?"

Chief planner Bob Bjerke said pilot projects in other jurisdictions have typically run for shorter periods, but the test could be extended for a minimal cost.

Mystery solved, as lost cash returned to family

Halifax Regional Police say they've located the owner of a large sum of money that was found in a Dartmouth thrift store earlier this month.

Officers initially responded to a call from a thrift store employee who found several thousands of dollars in sealed

envelopes inside a bundle of folded drapes that had been recently donated.

Police say bank deposit slips found with the cash show the money was withdrawn from a Guysborough County bank in 2006.

On Feb. 13, police began

Police mum

Police wouldn't disclose the specific amount of money that had been found.

asking the public for assistance

in locating an owner.

According to a release issued Thursday, a woman contacted police shortly afterward, saying she had donated the personal belongings of a loved one to charity after that person died in January.

Investigators were able to

verify the woman's information through the bank and the money has since been turned over to next of kin.

Police spokesman Const. Pierre Bourdages said these types of situations, where a good Samaritan turns over lost valuables, happens more often

than one would think.

"It's the right thing to do," he said Thursday, explaining that within a year more than 100 lost purses, passports and other types of valuables are turned over to police, who are able to find an owner relatively quickly. **STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO**

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Parsons' case report on way

Cyberbullying. Police, prosecutors have been co-operative; report slated for early fall, investigator says

A former Ontario chief prosecutor says Nova Scotia police and prosecutors have been forthcoming in his review of their handling of the Rehtaeh Parsons case.

In an update on his review, Murray Segal said Thursday that he has met with members of the province's Public Prosecution Service, Parsons' family and police, and all have been co-operative.

"All of the procedures that we've been asking for we've been receiving and the interviews that we have sought have been provided," Segal told a news conference, adding he expects to deliver his report by early fall.

The provincial government ordered the review in

August 2013, but it was delayed until legal proceedings involving two men charged in the Parsons' case concluded.

Segal said the bulk of interviews for the review have been completed and that he would return to Ontario on Friday.

He said he needs time to go through the information, which includes police policies and procedures on sexual assault investigations, training curriculum for justice personnel who handle the cases and transcripts of the court cases involving the two convicted men.

"We've also been looking at and struck by the fact that the whole issue of cyberbullying and texting has really taken off in the last number of years, especially amongst youth," said Segal.

Police charged the men with child pornography offences just four days before Segal was appointed to lead the review.

A 20-year-old man pleaded guilty last November to distrib-



Murray Segal provides an update on his probe into the Rehtaeh Parsons cyberbullying case on Thursday. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

uting a sexually graphic image of Parsons, who was 15 years old at the time of the offence.

Another 20-year-old man pleaded guilty to making child pornography by taking a photo of the accused having sex with Parsons, who was taken off life-support after attempting suicide in 2013.

The young woman's family alleged that she was sexually assaulted in November 2011

and bullied for months after a digital photo of the alleged assault was passed around her school.

Police said they looked into the allegations of sexual assault and an inappropriate photo, but concluded there weren't enough grounds to lay charges.

The child pornography charges were laid after Parsons died. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Website comments

Convicted man's dad questioned

Military police questioned the father of a young man convicted in the Rehtaeh Parsons case about whether he used a military computer to make changes to websites discussing her death, says a search warrant.

The warrant was requested by military police to seize paper and digital records from the Canadian Forces Network Operations Centre in Ottawa on Tuesday.

It was executed as military police investigated complaints from Parsons' father that someone in the military used a Defence Department computer to post offensive comments about his teenage daughter's death on four separate occasions from last September until January.

Glen Canning went to the military police alleging offensive comments he received on his blog and revisions to a Wikipedia page were made by a mem-

ber of the Armed Forces who is the father of one of two young men convicted of child pornography, the warrant says.

On Feb. 5, a military police officer interviewed the father, "who stated it was possible that he may have written a couple of the comments on Glen Canning's website, but was unsure if he had or not," says the document obtained from provincial court.

Maj. Yves Desbiens said Thursday the arrest of an Armed Forces member two days earlier at Canadian Forces Base Shearwater was the result of the search warrant. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Rehtaeh Parsons
FACEBOOK/THE CANADIAN PRESS



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HALIFAX

Where pooches and felines are at the art of the matter

Gallery. Argyle Fine Art in Halifax launches third cat and dog show



HALEY RYAN

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A Halifax art gallery is celebrating pets this weekend with an annual show where puppies are welcome — and local artist Kim Danio isn't worried about getting her dogs to heel.

For the third year, Argyle Fine Art on Barrington Street in Halifax is launching "Cat Person. Dog Person" with a grand opening on Saturday featuring dog portraits sketched on site, "pup cakes," prizes and more to celebrate the show of textiles, paintings and many styles of art honouring household pets.

"It is just such a great way to bring a lot of people who might not go to an art show together," said Danio Thursday, a featured artist who created a dog and two cats out of shoes for the show.

"Pets kind of unify us."

Danio said she does a lot of thrift shopping to find the

One week

'Cat Person. Dog Person' opens Saturday at Argyle Fine Art from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. It runs until March 7.

right high heels, boots or other shoes to make her creations. She finds most people identify as a cat or a dog person — or maybe both.

"I have three dogs and two cats," Danio said, but added if she had to choose, she would pick dogs.

"I do love my cats, so I'm not saying that in earshot of any of them," she laughed.

Danio said she has been making her shoe art for only the past year and this is the first Cat Person show she'll be in. But she loves working with such cast-off materials as footwear, old jackets and clothes because they "tell a story."

"They are something that can be turned into anything, and I can see so many things in a shoe," she said.

Although well-behaved dogs are welcome to the opening, gallery owner Adriana Afford said it's probably best to leave cats at home to



Terra, right, sniffs one of Kim Danio's pieces made from a shoe. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Quoted

"It is just such a great way to bring a lot of people who might not go to an art show together.... Pets kind of unify us."

Kim Danio, a featured artist in "Cat Person. Dog Person"

avoid flying fur, since more than 30 pups showed up last year.

Afford said cats were the main reason the show began three years ago, when it was launched strictly as a feline

show amid the Internet hype over cats and Tuxedo Stan's run for Halifax mayor in 2012.

The gallery is also encouraging people to fill the Internet with photos of Halifax

dogs and cats on Argyle Fine Art's Facebook and Twitter pages using the hashtag #cat-persondogperson.

This is also the time of year when winter can get you down, and Afford said

there's nothing better to put a smile on your face than some pet therapy.

"Art is for everybody, and can be a lot fun," Afford said. "Just make it a really happy, happy day."

Dal students, researcher featured in shark doc



Brendal Davis, middle, a research associate at Dalhousie University, implants an acoustic tag into a blue shark off the Nova Scotia coast. CONTRIBUTED

Movies such as Jaws and Sharknado play on the misconception all sharks are man-eating monsters, but one local filmmaker has looked a blue shark in the eye and declared it "lovely."

Megan Wennberg directed Blue Sharks: Tracking an Ancient Predator, a documentary airing Sunday that follows a group of Dalhousie University students and research associate Brendal Davis as they search for blue sharks off Eastern Passage to implant them with acoustic tags that al-

low their movements to be tracked.

"They're certainly one of the more common species, but they're also the main (one) targeted in the shark-fin trade and ... caught as bycatch," Wennberg said Thursday.

Anyone out fishing for tuna or swordfish often brings in lots of blue sharks in their nets as bycatch that can die, Wennberg said.

The research, done in partnership with the Ocean Tracking Network, showed there's likely a nursery for

juvenile female blue sharks in Eastern Passage that is "really important" to know about when comparing habitats, Wennberg said.

There are millions of different types of sharks off the province's coast, Wennberg said, but added blue sharks "especially seem lovely" after watching them curiously circle the boat during their time on the water.

"They weren't being aggressive, they just lay back and just let Brendal insert the tags and it was amazing. They opened their eyes and

See it on TV

Blue Sharks: Tracking an Ancient Predator airs on CBC's Land and Sea on Sunday at noon.

they were looking at us," Wennberg said.

"They have an eye kind of like a human eye.... It's got an iris and different colours, and a big black pupil. They're just really beautiful." **HALEY RYAN/METRO**



Tim Carroll, superintendent of the Northeast Nova Scotia Correctional Facility, speaks inside the new jail this month. NEW GLASGOW NEWS

New jail looks at ways to detect drug drones

Northeast Nova Scotia Correctional Facility.

Drones are increasing as a method for delivering contraband to prisoners

One of Canada's newest jails is researching the use of detection technology to prevent the invasion of drug-bearing drones that have plagued some North American prisons.

Tim Carroll, superintendent of the Northeast Nova Scotia Correctional Facility near Truro, said staff are examining ways to prevent unmanned aerial vehicles from lowering contraband into the jail's airing yards, in a rural area north of Truro.

"We're looking at both obtaining our own drones for ... perimeter checks and verifying surveillance in and around our correctional facility and, in addition to that, detecting drones which are not govern-



The Aeryon SkyRanger drone. DALE G. YOUNG/ DETROIT NEWS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

ment-operated and that may pose a threat to the facility," he said in an interview.

Incidents recorded in South Carolina and Quebec in the past two years prompted Carroll's interest as he worked on plans for the 100-cell jail, which opened Feb. 8.

"We want to take advantage of the modern technology out there. Drones are part of everyday life now ... they're going to be impacting security," he said.

He added that readily available, higher-end drones are capable of video reconnaissance — another threat that has to be considered.

A drone detection company says it has received inquiries from provincial governments as incidents involving drones

over jails become more prevalent.

Boris Defreville, chief of operations for French-based Orelia Inc., said his firm is one of a few competing in the new drone detection market.

Sensors made by the company, which cost about \$3,000 each, lock onto the sound of whirring drone blades, while competitors' devices lock in on Wi-Fi frequencies, use radar or employ infrared cameras, he said.

Defreville said jails are taking a cautious approach to actually buying products.

"Right now everybody is trying to understand what is the best solution to detect drones," he said.

Andrew Preeper of Nova Scotia's Justice Department

said there hasn't been a recorded incident of a drone entering prison airspace in the province.

Meanwhile, drone detectors are just part of an array of technology aimed at keeping drugs out of jails, said Carroll, who has asked for approval to buy a body scanner worth more than \$200,000 to keep contraband out of the jail in Priestville.

Body scanners are widely used in U.S. jails to detect everything from knives to pill boxes hidden in body cavities or other body parts.

Carroll said smuggled drugs undermine rehabilitation programs, cause more violence and lead to prison searches that confine inmates to their cells. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



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Quoted

"Most incidents in facilities across Canada can be linked back to the introduction ... of contraband."

Tim Carroll, superintendent of the Northeast Nova Scotia Correctional Facility

Minister says N. S. health merger legislation likely to miss deadline

Labour. Government previously said it wanted union issue solved in time for amalgamation of health boards

Legislation settling which unions will represent workers in Nova Scotia's health sector likely won't be ready by a deadline set for the merger of the province's health authorities, the health minister said Thursday.

Leo Glavine said the legislation aimed at trimming health sector bargaining units to four from 50 will likely be the first item dealt with after the legislature convenes for its spring sitting on March 26.

Glavine said there are

no plans to recall the house early in order to ensure the bill will be ready for the amalgamation of 10 health boards into two, which is set to occur April 1.

"The legislation is not constructed yet, but that will be done over the next few weeks," said Glavine.

The government had previously said it wanted the issue around which unions represent nurses, clerical and support staff settled by the merger deadline.

But that was before the government dismissed arbitrator James Dorsey, who last Friday issued a decision settling only one of the four bargaining units.

In the meantime, Glavine said, the government wouldn't be opposed to a deal with the unions, if possible. He said the lines of communication would remain open between the

Union overhaul

The government has said shrinking the number of bargaining units will streamline health contract talks and break a steady cycle of contract negotiations.

- The move will affect 24,000 workers in the health-care sector currently represented by the Nova Scotia Government and General Employees Union, the Nova Scotia Nurses Union, Unifor and the Canadian Union of Public Employees.

Health Department and union officials.

"That (a deal) is always a possibility," Glavine said. "But that would then transfer ... into legislation."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Health minister Leo Glavine says legislation that will trim health sector bargaining units from 50 to four won't be ready in time for the merger of the province's health authorities. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Casey ponders possibility of school on Saturdays

The number of school days lost to winter storms could see some Nova Scotia school boards make up class time on Saturdays, says the education minister.

Karen Casey said Thursday it's up to school boards to figure out how the lost time will be made up within their existing schedules.

Casey said there are a number of options under consideration including the use of time that otherwise may have been used for scheduled field trips or other events.

"But within my purview we can look at three Saturdays or we can look at days in March break," she said.

Casey said the school calendar is set but there are options



Karen Casey. JEFF HARPER/METRO

that can be used within the 195 days a year that are allotted.

She said she would consider stepping in when the number of snow days reaches 10 days or more. Casey didn't specify

which boards may be affected but said she's close to making a decision whether to act.

"We would want schools to do the best they can first within their own schedules," she said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Merger

Province names candidates for health authority

The Nova Scotia government has asked a dozen people to lead the province's new, unified health authority.

Health Minister Leo

Glavine says the candidates for the Nova Scotia Health Authority will serve as volunteers.

Glavine says the board should become operational on April 1, as promised.

The candidates include industry professionals and former health-care administrators and public servants.

Steve Parker, CEO of CCL

Group Inc. and a former chairman of the IWK Health Centre in Halifax, has been asked to be the chairman of the new authority.

Glavine says the appointments will not become final until they are approved by the legislature's human resources committee and the provincial cabinet.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Clayton Miller CONTRIBUTED

'The scale of it has been a challenge'

Clayton Miller death.

Medical examiner unable to predict how long review will take

Nova Scotia's chief medical examiner said he doesn't know when his review into the death of Clayton Miller might be concluded.

Dr. Matt Bowes said the investigation is more complex than anticipated. He said it's not only the largest file he has ever been asked to review but, with 17,000 pages from the RCMP alone, the largest file he has ever seen.

"The scale of it has been a challenge but, again, we are making our way through it," he said.

"We need to be very careful and very thorough in our approach to this. However else this goes, I do want to be able to tell the community that I did a first-rate job and that I considered all the angles; that means just being careful."

In September 2014, Bowes began his investigation into Miller's death at the request of Nova Scotia Justice Minister Lena Metlege Diab after new information surfaced as a result of Kate Dwyer, a retired nurse, reviewing the autopsy photos.

In October 2014, the province's Serious Incident Response Team (SIRT) announced it was investigating the accuracy of information it received that alleges a current member of the Cape Breton Regional Police Services may have undisclosed information

Quoted

"I certainly hope my report brings peace to the community and to the Miller family."

Dr. Matt Bowes, Nova Scotia's chief medical examiner

regarding the death of Miller.

Bowes said although it's two separate investigations, he and the SIRT investigators are collaborating.

He said his final report — which will detail his reasoning from beginning to end — will be delivered to the justice minister and then he'll meet with the Miller family.

He hopes this investigation will finally put the matter to rest in the community.

"That will certainly be my hope," he said. "I certainly hope my report brings peace to the community and to the Miller family. How it is received to the Miller family and community is not up to me."

Maureen Miller, Clayton's mom, said she hasn't spoken to Bowes since he met with her family in January, but has been in contact with him through email, including sending new information she received.

She said they don't mind the wait, they want the investigation to be thorough and honest.

"We want to know Dr. Bowes' opinion on what he sees in the pictures, the autopsy and re-autopsy reports and the information and report Kate Dwyer did."

CAPE BRETON POST

Police arrest man accused of making threats, which led to road shutdown

Halifax Regional Police arrested a 47-year-old man Wednesday evening, after he allegedly made threats and attempted to access a firearm.

Officers responded to a report of an unwanted man — in a residence on Basinview Road in Ketch

Harbour — on Wednesday around 7:55 p.m.

Police allege that the suspect had made several threats against others and was trying to get a hold of a firearm.

Ketch Harbour Road by Atlantic View was shut down for nearly an hour.

Several police patrol units, a K-9 unit and members from the Emergency Response Team surrounded the residence to neutralize the situation.

Eventually, the 47-year-old man was taken into police custody from the residence.

He was charged him uttering threats.

No injuries were reported in the incident.

Police say they seized several weapons and that the suspect would appear in court on Thursday to face threat charges.

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'I try to push the boundaries'

Happy birthday.

Cape Breton fiddler Ashley MacIsaac turns 40 this week, and is still going strong

More than two decades after he set out to make his mark on the Canadian music scene, a now-40-year-old Ashley MacIsaac says he's taken the very best of Cape Breton with him on the journey.

One of the most recognized musicians in the country, MacIsaac celebrated his 40th birthday Tuesday. Not surprisingly, he spent part of the milestone day on stage, fiddle in hand, performing a show at Hugh's Room in Toronto.

In an interview this week, MacIsaac reflected on turning 40, and on his life and career to date, noting that his island upbringing and roots have remained with him throughout his career.

"That sorta tough guy-ness that's a little bit under every (Cape Bretoner), that's helped me," he said.

"The other side, the

very congenial, gentleness of people — be they from New Waterford and Sydney, all the way up to Inverness County — that gentle spirit I think I've had to use that on many occasions to be at peace with where I am on any given day and what I'm trying to do with my music."

These days, not unlike the past 20 years, MacIsaac is striking a balance between traditional Cape Breton fiddle music and the other sounds and genres of music — from rock to pop to electronica — that he's used to keep things fresh and new.

"You have to keep venturing out in how you present yourself, for sure," he said.

Now 20 years since the release of his breakout album *Hi, How Are You Today*, MacIsaac is set to release a new album, a collaboration with percussionist and beat boxer Jay Andrews.

"It's really hip, it's really now, it's really modern. The new stuff that's going to come out I think is going to change a couple of brains about Celtic music," he said.

"I try to push the bound-



It's a year of milestones for Ashley MacIsaac. He just turned 40 and it's been 20 years since the release of the hugely successful album, *Hi, How Are You Today?*
CONTRIBUTED

Quoted

"You gotta be prepared for anything if you're going to give your life to music."

Ashley MacIsaac

Outspokenness

Music as a platform

Throughout his adult life, Ashley MacIsaac hasn't shied away from speaking his mind on everything from politics to social issues to the seal hunt.

Some of his comments have generated controversy

over the years but MacIsaac, who lives in Windsor, Ont., with his husband Andrew, said that like every Canadian who gets up, goes to work, reads the news and thinks about things, he has an opinion. And as a musician he's been given a platform to talk about issues he's passionate about, whether it be gay mar-

riage or marijuana.

"The things that are dear to me I should always feel free to talk about. Any artist that gets that opportunity to do it I think would be crazy not to," he said, later adding, "Anybody who is a Cape Bretoner has the right and duty to speak their mind."

CAPE BRETON POST

Crime

Police seek man in relation to credit card frauds

Halifax Regional Police have released a number of different images of a man they say is responsible for a string of credit card frauds dating back to the middle of December.

Police say there have been six reports of lost or stolen credit cards that are all related since Dec. 13.

In each case, police say the cards were illegally used to purchase several items, including alcohol and prepaid gift cards, mostly around the Quinpool Road area of Halifax.

Five pictures of the suspect were released by police on Thursday afternoon.



One of five images released of the suspect.
COURTESY HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE

He is described as a black man in his 40s, about five-foot-seven and 165 pounds.

Anyone with information about the man in the photograph above is asked to contact police at 902-490-5016.

METRO

Wanted

Driver sought after pedestrian hit

Police are trying to identify the driver involved in a hit-and-run this month.

Around noon on Feb. 18, police say a man was hit by a vehicle when crossing at the 3900 block of Kencrest Avenue in Halifax.

The police say the car didn't stop and was last seen turning left onto Novalea Drive.

The pedestrian, who wasn't in a crosswalk, suffered minor injuries and was taken to hospital by a family member.

The victim reported the incident to police on Feb. 20 and investigators now want to speak with the driver of a white Toyota Echo. METRO

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Police make quick arrest after bank robbery

Clayton Park.
Two minutes and officers had their man, says spokesman



**PHILIP
CROUCHER**
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

It didn't take Halifax

Regional Police very long to make an arrest in an afternoon bank robbery Thursday.

Officers were called to a robbery at the Bank of Montreal at 360 Lacewood Dr. in Clayton Park at 3 p.m. and, within two minutes, police had a 50-year-old man in handcuffs.

Police say the suspect entered the bank, told a

teller he had a weapon and demanded money. He then fled on foot with cash but was located by officers at 3:02 p.m. at the intersection of Regency Park Drive and Lacewood.

Police say they found the stolen cash on him, along with a pellet gun, and arrested him.

"Officers were in the area when the call came in

and located the individual," said police spokesman Const. Pierre Bourdages. "He left the bank and we caught him at the intersection."

No one was hurt in the robbery and police say no weapon was ever seen by the tellers.

Bourdages noted late Thursday charges hadn't been laid but they were expected.



Police caught the suspect as he left the crime scene Thursday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Forest Lakes Country Club. Construction set to begin on development near Windsor

Construction will begin later this year on 2,700 homes at the Forest Lakes Country Club outside of Windsor near Highway 101.

Developers say the 1,700-acre site near Ardoise will include condominiums, townhouses, single-family homes, retail space, hotels, parks and a boathouse adjacent to an 18-hole golf course.

Terra Firma Development Corporation, run by Maritimers Bradley and Donald Marr, is constructing the new neighbourhood.

The brothers have developed this style of spa community before in other parts of the world.

In a media release, the firm says the properties will be marketed to local and international clients who visit the province.

"Our international clients love Nova Scotia and love the idea of living in the great Canadian outdoors in a premium resort commun-

ity packed with amenities," said company president Bradley Marr.

The Marrs are trumpeting the site's location, between Windsor and Bedford, and its proximity to the Halifax International Airport.

"Halifax has direct flights to major centres in Europe and to several large North American cities including New York, Chicago, the Washington area, Toronto and Montreal," Marr said.

"North America will be our market focus this year."

HANTS JOURNAL

Details

Prices on the homes will range between \$300,000 and more than \$1 million according Richard Reese, vice-president of development and construction.

Industrial permit

Northern Pulp will appeal limits set out by Department of Environment

The new industrial approval for Northern Pulp to operate under for the next five years will set the company up for failure, says its general manager.

Bruce Chapman said this week that Northern Pulp will be appealing a new industrial approval set out for the local pulp mill because it sets standards that are not realistic and not being followed by others in the industry.

"Some are suggesting that by appealing this ... we are trying to shy away

from our responsibilities, but that's not true," he said. "We intend to improve our environment performance but this will hamper our business. This is not a win-win for us and not a win-win for Nova Scotia."

The Nova Scotia Department of Environment announced in January that Northern Pulp has been granted a new industrial permit with tighter restrictions on emission and effluent standards. The changes will be phased in over five years. They state the mill must reduce particulate emissions to about five times lower than levels set by the previous permit and it will be required to reduce daily water consumption by 34 per cent by 2020.

NEW GLASGOW NEWS



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Quebec education minister quits over controversies

Embattled Quebec Education Minister Yves Bolduc quit politics on Thursday and will return to practising medicine.

Bolduc told reporters he has also resigned his Quebec City-area seat in the provincial legislature in addition to quitting cabinet.

The abrupt departure comes following a number of controversies surrounding Bolduc, including a recent one over strip searches at Quebec schools.

Premier Philippe Couillard stood with Bolduc as he made the announcement in Quebec City, following a brief meeting with the Liberal caucus and Couillard himself.

Bolduc has been a source of embarrassment for the governing Liberals in recent days after comments he made about strip searches at schools.

Last week, Bolduc said strip searches were permitted in Quebec high schools as long as



Former Quebec Education Minister Yves Bolduc THE CANADIAN PRESS

they were conducted in a manner that was “very respectful” to the student.

The issue surfaced after a 15-year-old girl told the Journal de Quebec she felt violated after being strip-searched because the school suspected her of selling drugs. A day later, Bolduc backtracked and announced an independent lawyer would look into the allegations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Six Quebecers who left country may have been radicalized, reports say

Reports claiming six young Quebecers left the country in mid-January and may have joined jihadist groups in the Middle East prompted a call from public safety officials urging families to contact authorities if they suspect relatives have been radicalized.

Montreal police and other authorities are offering little information about the reports — which first appeared in Montreal La Presse Thursday — that four men and two women from the Montreal area fled Canada to fight with jihadists in Syria.

Federal Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney would not

discuss the case specifically, adding only that the reports highlight the need for the Conservatives’ controversial anti-terrorism legislation to be passed.

A well-placed source confirmed that six young men and women between 18 and 20 years old from the Montreal area all left around mid-January and landed in Turkey, which is a well-known gateway to the battlefield of Syria and Iraq where jihadist groups are involved in a civil war.

Montreal Police would only confirm the force is investigating several cases of missing adults. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Politics

Study of anti-terror bill a contentious issue for MPs

The time is now to take on terrorists, Prime Minister Stephen Harper insisted Thursday even as Conservatives agreed to opposition demands to devote more time to the study of their security bill. But getting the government to double the number of hearings on the bill and bolster the witness list didn’t stop the NDP from bogging down efforts to establish the scope of the study. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto

Rob Ford’s cancer treatment ending

Former Toronto Mayor Rob Ford says his radiation treatments for a rare form of abdominal cancer are ending Thursday and he will know soon if doctors can operate.

Ford received chemotherapy and radiation for the tumour that was discovered last September, prompting him to abandon his bid for re-election as mayor. He ran for his old council seat instead, and won in the Oct. 27 municipal vote. THE CANADIAN PRESS



A woman holds a sign as hundreds of people march through the Downtown Eastside in Vancouver, B.C. during the 25th annual Women's Memorial March on Feb. 14. The march is held to honour missing and murdered women and girls from the community, with stops along the way to commemorate where women were last seen or found. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Roundtable on missing, murdered women ‘a start’

One-day gathering.

AFN Chief Perry Bellegarde views Friday’s talks as the beginning of a national dialogue

Dawn Harvard says the short amount of time devoted to a long list of speakers and a packed agenda at the national roundtable on missing and murdered indigenous women Friday need not be an obstacle.

“It only takes a few seconds to say, ‘Yes, we will commit X amount of dollars,’” said Harvard, interim president of the Native Women’s Association of Canada, as she spelled out — with some hopeful humour

— her desire for a strong commitment from provincial and federal government representatives at the meeting here.

The consensus on just what to do about the fact that, according to the RCMP, about 1,200 aboriginal women and girls have been murdered or gone missing in Canada in the past three decades, may be harder to come by.

And the Legal Strategy Coalition on Violence Against Indigenous Women, a group of organizations including Amnesty International, released a report on Thursday concluding that the federal government has ignored most of the more than 700 recommendations contained in 58 reports on violence against aboriginal women and girls, raising the question of whether any agree-

Representatives

Status of Women Minister Kellie Leitch and Aboriginal Affairs Minister Bernard Valcourt are representing the federal government at the roundtable

- Representatives from an emotional closed-door gathering of families of victims in Ottawa Thursday will also be given a chance to share ideas.

ments made at the roundtable will come to life.

Assembly of First Nations National Chief Perry Bellegarde views the one-day gathering — to focus on prevention and awareness, community safety,

policing and the justice system — as the beginning of a national dialogue.

“We never deprive people of hope. It’s a beginning. It’s a start,” Bellegarde said Thursday, adding there has already been talk of a followup meeting to make sure whatever comes out of the roundtable is implemented.

The Conservative government, which has long resisted the idea of holding a national inquiry into the issue, is likely to focus on the \$25-million action plan it promoted last fall.

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, who is calling for a pan-Canadian prevention and awareness campaign and a better way to share police statistics, said Ottawa’s action plan would not be enough.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Change to transgender rights bill angers activists

Amendments to the transgender rights bill banning trans people from using public washrooms cannot stand, activists say.

“The bathroom part is appalling, that’s discrimination at its absolute worst,” said Amanda Ryan of the Ottawa transgender support organization Gender Mosaic.

Bill C-279, which seeks to add gender identity to the Canadian Human Rights Act, passed the Senate on Wednes-

day. But before passing, Sen. Donald Plett, a Conservative member of the standing committee reviewing the bill, added a controversial amendment exempting the legislation from applying to “sex-specific” facilities such as public washrooms.

Plett said it is a safety issue, and in previous committee meetings said that letting transgender women use the women’s washroom “allows for pedophiles to take advantage of legislation that

we have in place.”

But many say that Plett’s concerns are inherently discriminatory.

“To me that is assuming the transgender person is a threat to people, and all that we’ve worked for, all this legislation is all for naught,” said Liberal Sen. Mobina Jaffer.

At the heart of Plett’s amendment is a debate about at what point a transgender person belongs to their chosen gender. Plett’s amendment

would not apply to transgender people who have had a surgical sex change, but it would apply to those who take hormone therapy without surgery.

But Ryan said sexual reassignment surgery is a lengthy process, and many people may be living as their chosen gender but still waiting for surgery. Still more may not want to get the surgery at all, because of the expense or because they think it is unnecessary, she said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Murder. Court gives life sentence to German nurse

A German court sentenced a male nurse to life in prison on Thursday for killing patients with overdoses of heart medication that he confessed to administering because he enjoyed trying to revive them.

The Oldenburg regional court found the 38-year-old guilty of charges including two counts of murder, two counts of attempted murder and another of serious bodily harm, court spokesman Daniel Moenrich said.

Prosecutors had accused the man, identified only as Niels H. in line with German privacy rules, of three murders and two attempted murders during his time working at a clinic in the town of Delmenhorst.

"The court concluded that the accused used the heart medication to bring about a life-threatening situation in five

Probe

Police have begun probing some 200 deaths that occurred during the man's time working in Delmenhorst, Oldenburg and nearby Wilhelmshaven — all in northern Germany.

cases, so as to make himself appear particularly competent when he revived them," Moenrich said.

The defendant said during the trial that he intentionally brought about cardiac crises in some 90 patients because he enjoyed the feeling of being able to resuscitate them. He said 30 patients died, and expressed remorse for his actions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Afghanistan

Avalanche toll rises to 165 amid rescue efforts

The number of people killed in a massive avalanche in a mountain-bound valley in northeastern Afghanistan rose on Thursday to 165 as lack of equipment and the sheer depth of snow that buried entire homes and families hampered rescue efforts.

The Afghan army deployed 1,000 soldiers from the Kabul Corps to the Panjshir Valley, to help in the rescue efforts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ukraine

Rebels start pulling back heavy weapons

Warring parties in Ukraine took a major stride toward quelling unrest in the country's east Thursday with the declared start of a supervised withdrawal of heavy weapons from the front line. Ukrainian and separatist officials have noted a sharp decline in violence, although the chances of a long-lasting settlement remain clouded by suspicions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISIL seizes more Christians, smashes ancient artifacts

Iraq and Syria. More than 220 abducted, according to activists

ISIL militants seized more Christians from their homes in northeastern Syria in the past three days, bringing the total number abducted by the extremist group to more than 220, activists said Thursday.

At the same time, the extremists also released a video showing the continued destruction of the heritage of the lands under their control. It depicted men using sledgehammers to smash ancient Mesopotamian statues and other artifacts in Iraq's northern city of Mosul.

The video, coinciding with mounting fears over the fate of the captive Christian Assyrians in Syria, sent a fresh wave of dread across the region, particularly among minorities who feel targeted by the group.

"Daesh is wiping Assyrian heritage in Mosul, and at the same time wiping them geographically from the face of the Earth," said Osama Edward, director of the Assyrian Network for Human Rights in Syria. He referred to the ISIL by its Arabic acronym.

About 200 Assyrians and other Christians gathered in a church east of Beirut in solidarity with the victims in Syria and Iraq. Some cried openly.

One man held a ban-



In this image made Thursday from video posted on a social media account affiliated with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, a militant topples an ancient artifact in the Ninevah Museum in Mosul, Iraq. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ner that read: "We will not surrender, we will not be broken." A few young men said they were preparing to go to Syria to fight and help their brethren defend their homes against ISIL.

The destruction of artifacts in the Mosul museum is part of a campaign by ISIL extremists who have destroyed a

number of shrines — including Muslim holy sites — to eliminate what they view as heresy. They also are believed to have sold ancient artifacts on the black market in order to finance their bloody campaign in the region.

In the video released Thursday, militants used sledgehammers and drills to

smash and destroy several large statues, which are then shown chipped and in pieces. The five-minute video also shows a black-clad man at an archaeological site in Mosul, drilling through and destroying a winged-bull — an Assyrian protective deity — that dates to the 7th century B.C.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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U.S. watchdog bans ISPs from slowing Web traffic

Net neutrality.

FCC's 3-2 vote ushers in a new era of government oversight

Internet activists declared victory over the big cable companies in the U.S. Thursday, after the Federal Communications Commission voted to impose the toughest rules yet on broadband providers like Comcast, Verizon and AT&T to prevent them from creating paid fast lanes and slowing or blocking web traffic.

The 3-2 vote represents the biggest regulatory shake-up to telecommunications providers in two decades.

The new rules require that any company providing a broadband connection to a home or phone must act in the "public interest" and refrain from using "unjust or unreasonable" business practices. The goal is to prevent providers from striking deals with content providers like

CRTC

Canada led way, says crusader

Canada has always regulated the Internet as a utility, which has made it somewhat easier for the CRTC to step in.

"They're sort of bringing their rules more or less with what we've got," said Ben Klass, a Carleton grad student whose own crusade

against service providers charging in full for YouTube or other videos, but discounting their own, led to the CRTC issuing a landmark decision in favour of net neutrality in January.

Klass met with FCC commissioner Mignon Clyburn in October to discuss the Canada context. "What's been happening in Canada is actually a good indicator of how this might play out in the States," Klass said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Google, Netflix or Twitter to load their data faster.

The FCC had enacted open Internet rules by 2010, but the agency's legal approach was struck down in the courts. The vote Thursday was intended to erase any legal ambiguity by no longer classifying the Internet as an "information service" but a "telecommunications service" subject to Title II of the 1934 Communications Act.

That would dramatically expand regulators' power and hold broadband providers to the higher standard of operating in the public interest.

The FCC says it won't apply some sections, including price controls. That means rates for Internet access won't be subject to pre-approval. But the law allows the government to investigate if consumers complain.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Levant crowdfunds new media venture

Ezra Levant, the former Sun TV personality, is taking to crowdfunding to help back his new media venture, The Rebel. According to the outspoken host's website, he has already raised roughly \$100,000 for new equipment and more than \$15,000 a month in ongoing contributions to pay for the site's operations. Levant said the money, which is being deposited into a PayPal account, has come from about 2,000 individual contributors.

PAWEŁ DWULITZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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Public payphones

CRTC cracks down

Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission is proposing firms be obligated to notify communities affected before removing the last payphone. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

There is still more time to apply for **Personal Credits of up to \$3000** for educational, language or cultural programs.



Individuals who received a Common Experience Payment under the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement are eligible for up to \$3000 in Personal Credits for education programs and services.



These include courses at universities, colleges, trade or training schools or for programs and workshops provided by community-based groups or cultural centres for activities related to Aboriginal language and culture. Personal Credits can be used by a Common Experience Payment recipient, shared with up to two family members or pooled for group education services.



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- Assembly of First Nations: **1-866-869-6789**
- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Iqaluit: **1-888-646-0006**
- Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Inuvik: **1-867-777-7092**
- Makivik Corporation, Quebec: **1-418-522-2224**

Arizona outage highlights vulnerability of Internet

Computers, cellphones and landlines in Arizona were knocked out of service for hours, ATMs stopped working, 911 systems were disrupted and businesses were unable to process credit card transactions — all because a vandal apparently sliced through a fibre-optic Internet cable buried under the desert.

The Internet outage did more than underscore just how dependent modern society has become on high technology. It raised questions about the vulnerability of the Internet infrastructure.

Quoted

"It just goes to show how dependent we are on the Internet."

Zak Holland, who works at a computer store at Northern Arizona University, said distraught students were nearly in tears when he said nothing could be done to restore their Internet connection.

The severed CenturyLink-owned cable carries signals for various cellphone, TV and Internet providers that serve northern Arizona. Mark Goldstein, secretary for the

Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council, said CenturyLink's cable probably has bundles of fibres that can be leased to multiple service providers. If there is no alternative path, damage to the line will wreak havoc.

In Prescott Valley, north of Phoenix, 911 service was supplemented with hand-held radios. During newscasts, Phoenix TV stations showed blank spaces on their weather maps instead of local temperatures as weather reports from the region weren't able to reach anyone. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Facebook adds new gender option

Facebook users who don't fit any of the 58 gender identity options offered by the social media giant are now being given a rather big 59th option: Fill in the blank.

"Now, if you do not identify with the prepopulated list of gender identities, you are able to add your own," said a Facebook announcement published online Thursday.

Facebook software engineer Ari Chivukula, who identifies as transgender and was

part of the team that made the free-form option, thinks the change will lead to more widespread acceptance of people who don't identify themselves as a man or woman.

Alison C.K. Fogarty, a gender identity researcher at Stanford University, said giving users control over the words describing their gender is a significant step in social recognition of a growing trans community, especially coming from the world's largest social

media company.

In February 2014, Facebook expanded gender identity from male and female to a list of dozens of options, including Androgynous, Gender Fluid, Intersex, Neither and Transgender. Those choices will all still be available.

People who choose a customized gender can also choose the pronoun they would like to be referred to publicly: he/his, she/her or they/their. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

VOICES

THIS IS WHY WE CAN'T DO NICE THINGS



THE KOHLER REPORT

By Rebecca Kohler

My mother used to say, "This is why we can't have nice things" after I'd done something stupid like putting a wet cup on an antique table — leaving a ring, wrecking the table. I was reminded of this phrase the day after the Oscars as social media — especially Slate and Vox — pulsed with scorn for Patricia Arquette. She had given us something nice and we put wet cups all over it.

On Sunday, after winning the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for her performance in *Boyhood*, Arquette ended her acceptance speech by demanding equal pay and equal rights for women in the United States. The crowd cheered and Meryl Streep and Jennifer Lopez had a simultaneous orgasm. It was a great moment and then Patricia Arquette went backstage.

In the press room, Arquette was asked to elaborate on her statement and here's where things got sticky: "It's time for all the women in America and all the men who love women and all the gay people and all the people of colour that we've fought for, to fight for us now."

Let no good deed go unpunished

Patricia Arquette tried to do a nice thing, but apparently, we can't have nice things today.

Ugh.

So, a lot of people took this to mean that Arquette thinks LGBTQ and people of colour have full equality themselves and that they now need to step up and help women. While the phrase may have been poorly worded — I'm surprised people can speak at all seconds after winning an Oscar — I think what Arquette meant was that we're all in this together. I don't believe she was trying to be exclusionary by mentioning those groups. I think if we put her and her speech into a benefit-of-the-doubt context, she was trying to be inclusive.

Patricia Arquette tried to do a nice thing, but apparently, we can't have nice things today.

Remember the Ice Bucket Challenge? The awareness campaign for the disease ALS raised over \$16 million dollars in Canada (over \$130 million worldwide). It was a nice

thing. But during the height of this cold, wet, philanthropic trend, I saw post after post on Facebook about how it was "a waste of water" or "just an opportunity for dumb girls to show off their bikini bodies." An article in *Macleans* said something to the tune of "there are more important diseases" (is this some kind of really unpleasant competition?) and a dim friend of mine protested that half the people doing it weren't even donating. OK, but what about the ones that WERE?

In the art of improv (as in improvisation), when you're working with other people, there's a rule called "Yes, and." The idea is that you take what your partner gives you and build upon it: "Let's adopt a dragon!" "Yes! AND use its breath as a BBQ."

You use each other's contributions as building blocks to construct a scene. It's an im-

prov sin to say "no" because "no" stops the scene in its tracks; if everyone said no, there would be no scene.

It seems to me that we are a society of "no." Patricia Arquette says she wants equality for women. "No, because she said it the wrong way." I want to raise money for ALS, "No, because it's wasteful. Now excuse me while I flush the toilet after my tiny pee."

Patricia Arquette is not the enemy. In this case the enemy is patriarchy and bigwigs on Wall Street and that's a whole other can of worms. But we're making it a lot easier for the enemy to continue to get its way by distracting ourselves with the imperfections of our own teammates.

If you see something good that you think could be better, why not say "Yes, and!" and build upon it?



Rebecca Kohler is a standup comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter at @becca_kohler

Happy face/Sad face

From imbibing bears to pernicious pundits, Metro weighs in on the news that made headlines this week:



DON'T PLY THE BEARS

Two bears that were being kept in a small, filthy cage outside a restaurant in Sochi, Russia, have been confiscated and are being treated for alcoholism. The animals got hooked on booze because visitors kept giving them beer. A sanctuary in Romania has offered to take them in.



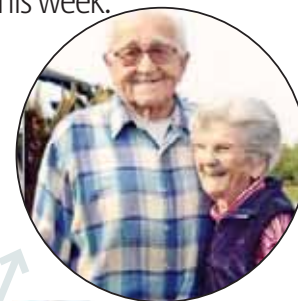
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THE OH-REILLY FACTOR

Bill O'Reilly, the Fox News pundit we all love to hate, is the latest journalist facing heat for inflating (or straight-up lying?) about experiences in his early reporting days in South America. O'Reilly claimed — among other things — to have seen nuns being executed in El Salvador. But skeptics point out his timeline doesn't make sense.



FLOYD + VIOLET FOREVER

The hottest hot of the week shoutout goes to the late Floyd and Violet Hartwig of Fresno, Calif., who died holding hands. The two met at a dance hall while he was on leave from the Navy. During their 67-year marriage, people often commented on their deep connection. When the family sensed they were ready to leave this world, they pushed their beds together. Floyd went first and Violet followed him five hours later. Rest in peace, Mr. and Mrs. Hartwig.



CHEATERS WIN

Recognizing that legalizing something is not the same as endorsing it, South Korea has stopped criminalizing adultery. No longer will children play boisterous games of "cops and cheaters," and John Updike books will now be moved out of the Crime Thriller section of South Korean bookstores.



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A backstage peek at the CSAs

Awards show. Metro's movie man Richard Crouse shares his most memorable moments covering Canada's biggest awards show

Everybody knows what happens on stage at a big show like this Sunday's Canadian Screen Awards.

A host sings, dances and/or tells jokes, glamorous presenters tear open envelopes and announce award winners who thank everyone from managers to spouses to Jesus. There's the slapping of backs, bespoke tuxedos and flowing gowns and tears.

Add in some drama, a red carpet and you have the ingredients of a big awards show, but what happens backstage?

Lots, as it turns out.

Every year at the Canadian Screen Awards there's a whole other show that happens offstage in the pressroom. Located deep in the bowels of the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, it is my domain during the live broadcast.

I host the room, interviewing the winners as they come off stage in front of an "audience" made up of local and national reporters, there for the free food and access to the celebs.

I am the purveyor of sound bites, the compère to the press who take the interviews I do and turn them into stories for the next day's papers and newscasts.

Over the years Elvis Costello, Tatiana Maslany, William Shatner and many



Fresh from her Oscar win, Julianne Moore is set to attend the Canadian Screen Awards this weekend. Moore, who is nominated for her role in David Cronenberg's *Maps To The Stars*, will be among the presenters during the show, televised on CBC Sunday. CONTRIBUTED

In Focus

RICHARD CROUSE



others have passed through, tossing out bon mots like they were candy. Jay Baruchel let it slip he was engaged to Alison Pill on our small stage. Viggo Mortensen proudly waved the Montreal Canadiens flag in the face of a roomful of Leafs fans and Jill Hennessey gushed about the Canadian Screen Awards gift bag, thanking the Academy for the Norman Jewison Maple Syrup. It's an easy gig for

me. Everyone who comes down from the main stage is a winner, automatically in a good mood and ready to have some fun.

When Lifetime Achievement Award winner David Cronenberg was asked where the inspiration for his movies came from he took a moment to examine the assembled crowd of journalists before deadpanning, "Just standing here is giving me all kinds of ideas for horror films."

Call Me Fitz star Tracy Dawson picked up a CSA for best actress but later told me that awards don't guar-

Richard's ratings

Focus

.....

The Lazarus Effect

.....

Elephant Song

.....

Big News From Grand Rock

.....

antee work.

She won a Gemini in 2011 for playing Meghan Fitzpatrick on the show and thought she had it made. Then her phone didn't ring for ten months.

In the pressroom she joked that she wanted to be clear — she was looking for work. "I'm totally available," she laughed.

It's a different show downstairs, less glitzy and more relaxed.

This year Andrea Martin is taking over hosting duties from fellow-SCTVer Martin Short but I'll never forget last year how Short tore up the pressroom, still jacked up from hosting the show.

He was hilarious when I asked if he'd try and top his spectacular flying entrance next year. "I can only fly so many times," he said.

"That harness chafes."

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2 SCENE

Orphan Black early Screen Award darling

CSAs. Sci-fi series takes home eight awards in pre-show presentation, while another big nominee, police drama 19-2, goes away empty-handed

The sci-fi clone saga Orphan Black heads into this weekend's Canadian Screen Awards with a leading eight wins under its belt.

The Space TV series collected the trophies at an early awards ceremony Wednesday, which handed out hardware in most of the television categories.

MuchMusic and MTV's Degrassi also scored big with four wins, while CBC-TV's The Rick Mercer Report and HBO Canada's Sensitive Skin each collected three.

Orphan Black entered the race with a leading 13 nominations, tied with the Xavier Dolan film Mommy.

Dolan and his fellow film nominees won't learn their fates until Sunday, when a non-televized ceremony will hand out most of the film awards.

A star-studded televised bash on Sunday night, hosted by comedy star Andrea Martin, will feature the marquee TV and film awards.

The show is set to air on CBC-TV.

Early wins for Orphan Black included best casting, directing and writing as well as a supporting actor trophy for Jordan Gavaris for his turn as the flamboyant Felix.

Gavaris won the same category last year.

Series star Tatiana Maslany — who has wowed critics for deftly tackling a slew of disparate cloned characters — will seek a repeat win for best actress on Sunday's televised ceremony, while the show competes for best dramatic series against Bravo's 19-2, Showcase's Continuum, CTV's Motive, and Global's Remedy.

Meanwhile, critically acclaimed cop drama 19-2 came up empty-handed Wednesday, despite entering the race with 10 nominations overall.

It's up for two final trophies Sunday, including best drama and best actor for Jared Keeso.



Orphan Black star Tatiana Maslany is looking to repeat her win for best actress at the CSAs this Sunday. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Robert Pattinson is nominated for best supporting actor for his role in David Cronenberg's Maps to the Stars. CONTRIBUTED



Xavier Dolan's film Mommy entered the CSA race with a leading 13 nominations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alternative categories

Real life gets rewarded

So far, The Amazing Race Canada is having an amazing run at the Canadian Screen Awards.

The second season of the popular CTV reality series claimed three trophies at an early awards show Tuesday, which recognized the best in documentary, reality, lifestyle, news, sports and digital media categories. It included wins for best direction, picture editing and writing. The best reality show trophy will be handed out Sunday. The documentary prizes were split between TMN/Movie Central's Our Man in Tehran, which took five

awards including best doc and direction, and History Channel's Tales from the Organ Trade, which claimed four, including best writing and the Donald Britton Award for best social/political doc. Winners in the news categories included Global National for best national newscast, CBC's The Fifth Estate for best news or information program, CTV's W5 journalist Tom Kennedy for best host or interviewer in a news or information program or series, and CTV News journalist Janis Mackey Frayer for best national reportage. The prize for best live sports event went to CBC's coverage of the Olympic women's gold medal hockey game.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ken Taylor, Canada's former ambassador to Iran, in Our Man in Tehran, which won best doc at an early CSAs presentation. CONTRIBUTED

East Coast comic Jonathan Torrens claimed the sole win Wednesday for CBC-TV's sitcom Mr. D, which also had 10 nominations overall.

Torrens earned the trophy for his featured supporting role as kooky vice-principal Cheeley.

The school-set sitcom will seek the best comedy title Sunday against TMN/Movie Central's Call Me Fitz, City's Seed, CTV's Spun Out, and Super Channel's Tiny Plastic Men.

Star Gerry Dee is also still up for best comic lead actor, against Adam Korson of City's Seed, Don McKellar of Sensitive Skin, Dave Foley of CTV's Spun Out, and Mark Meer of Super Channel's Tiny Plastic Men.

Sunday promises to include some Hollywood star wattage with recent Oscar-winner Julianne Moore, who is set to present an award.

She's also competing in the best actress category for her turn as an aging starlet in David Cronenberg's Maps to the Stars.

She's up against Ahn Ji Hye and Yoon Da Kyung, both for In Her Place, Julianne Cote for Tu dors Nicole, and Anne Dorval for Mommy.

Meanwhile, the best actor competition pits Ryan Reynolds from The Captive against Bruce Greenwood for Elephant Song, Michael Murphy for Fall, Evan Bird for Maps To The Stars and Antoine Olivier Pilon for Mommy.

The supporting actor category includes John Cusack and Robert Pattinson, each for Maps To The Stars, as well as Justin Chatwin for Bang Bang Baby, Marc-Andre Grondin for Tu dors Nicole and Kris Demeanor for The Valley Below.

The supporting actress race includes Sandrine Bisson for 1987, Kil Hae Yeon for In Her Place, Mia Wasikowska for Maps To The Stars, Suzanne Clement for Mommy and Catherine St-Laurent for Tu dors Nicole.

Cronenberg's dark comedy boasts 11 nominations but faces stiff competition from Mommy, which recently beat Richard Linklater's Boyhood and Wes Anderson's The Grand Budapest Hotel to be crowned best foreign film at France's Cesar Awards.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Now in theatres

Comedy/International



After The Ball

Director. Sean Garrity

Stars. Portia Doubleday, Chris Noth

Kate's dream is to design for couture houses. Although she is a bright new talent, Kate can't get a job. No one trusts the daughter of Lee Kassell, a retail guru who markets clothes "inspired" by the very designers Kate wants to work for. Reluctantly, Kate joins the family business where she must navigate around her duplicitous stepmother and two wicked stepsisters.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: No reviews yet
Audience: + 61%

Drama/Comedy



Focus

Director. John Requa, Glenn Ficarra

Stars. Will Smith, Rodrigo Santoro

A con artist (Will Smith) takes on an inexperienced apprentice in this crime comedy from the filmmaking duo behind Crazy Stupid Love: Glenn Ficarra and John Requa.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: No reviews yet
Audience: + 95%

Horror



The Lazarus Effect

Director. David Gelb

Stars. Olivia Wilde, Mark Duplass

The Lazarus Effect follows a group of researchers led by Frank (Mark Duplass) and his fiancée Zoe (Olivia Wilde), who've achieved the unimaginable — bringing the dead back to life. After a successful, yet unsanctioned, trial on a newly deceased animal, the team is ready to unveil their breakthrough to the world.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: No reviews yet
Audience: 64%

Comedy



Hot Tub Time Machine 2

Director. Steve Pink

Stars. Craig Robinson, Rob Corddry

Hot Tub Time Machine director Steve Pink returns to the helm for this sequel set 10 years in the future, and starring Rob Corddry, Adam Scott, Clark Duke, and Craig Robinson.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 15%
Audience: 41%

Romance



Fifty Shades of Grey

Director. Sam Taylor-Johnson

Stars. Jamie Dornan, Dakota Johnson

E.L. James' kinky bestseller gets the big-screen treatment with this Universal Pictures/Focus Features co-production. The steamy tale details a masochistic relationship between a college student and a businessman, whose desires for extreme intimacy stem from secrets in his past.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 25%
Audience: 50%

Drama



McFarland

Director. Niki Caro

Stars. Kevin Costner, Carlos Pratt

From Disney comes McFarland, the true against-all-odds story of the 1987 McFarland high school cross-country team in an economically challenged community.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 78%
Audience: 91%

New. Big News From Grand Rock is a comedic look at small-town journalism

For several of the stars of Big News From Grand Rock, making the film was a family affair.

"Peter and I were asked to do it first," says Leah Pinsent of her husband and co-star Peter Keleghan, "and I didn't even know Dad was going to be part of it."

Dad, of course, is acting icon Gordon Pinsent.

"Because it is a small independent movie, we were all put up at the Super 8 Motel," says Pinsent.

"I said, 'You have an opportunity where the three of us are family and we're right next to Georgian Bay, so why don't you give us the cash for the Super 8 and we'll rent a cottage.'

"So we actually made it into quite a nice summer affair. Brought the dog and walked along the beach. It was pretty cool."

In the movie, Ennis Esmer stars as Leonard Crane, the editor of the Grand Rock Weekly Ledger, a small-town newspaper on the verge of bankruptcy. With no real local news to draw from, Leonard turns to the town's video store for inspiration.

In the hope of pumping



Making up the news based on the plots of old movies is the premise of the new film Big News From Grand Rock, which opens this weekend.

CONTRIBUTED

up circulation and advertising revenues, he fabricates a series of wild "news" stories based on the plots of old movies.

Leah Pinsent co-stars as the town's mayor, a part

she says she based on Pamela Wallin and Rob Ford, while Keleghan is a dim-witted reporter employed by the paper's embattled publisher, played by Gordon.

RICHARD CROUSE/METRO

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What it's like to be the belle — and beau — of the ball

Film. As women are too often cast to support a male lead, actress Portia Doubleday is excited to play both genders

STEVE GOW
scene@metronews.ca

Portia Doubleday was so tired of taking on trite female roles, the actress decided to play both a woman and a man in her latest movie.

In *After the Ball*, the Hollywood-based actress of such cinematic hits as *Carrie* and *Her* plays Kate, a determined young fashion designer that transforms herself into Nate — a brash, bespectacled style-sensation — in order to land a cushy couturier job.

"I definitely find that in many scripts, I'm so deterred by female characters that are written to fill this supporting role to a male lead," said Doubleday from Los Angeles ahead of the film's upcoming release.

"The linear nature of having to be this machine as opposed to the central character and being complex ... I'm



Portia Doubleday plays Kate, as well as Nate, in *After the Ball*. CONTRIBUTED

attracted to roles that push the limit of that border."

For Doubleday, the border-pushing dual-role also meant the budding star had to convincingly portray a

different gender.

While finding the character of Kate was exercise enough, learning to play a man proved an entirely new challenge.

"It took me a long time," admitted Doubleday. "(But) it just started to come together with the wardrobe, honestly.

"I had to wear this body

suit and I couldn't bend; I had to be constantly upright. It's amazing — with that kind of posture, you instantly become a different person."

Northern exposure

Doubleday on filming in Montreal

- "I don't know if it's just a Canadian thing but the nature of people in Canada is just overwhelmingly wonderful," said Doubleday. "The crew was incredible and that was so great, it just kind of lends itself to creativity. You just feel more comfortable."

While the comedic practice of switching identities may not be altogether pioneering (see classics like *Tootsie* or *Some Like it Hot*, for starters), *After the Ball* does take the premise to a new plateau by enveloping the twist into a Cinderella story — just the latest adaptation that has tailored itself on the 17th-century classic.

"It just never gets old," explained Doubleday of the narrative's endurance.

"The reason why I was so attracted to this version of a Cinderella story is — the guys don't save Cinderella in the end, she saves herself, and I think that's the beautiful message of this movie."

Playing a dangerous game in *Elephant Song*

Thriller. As offers come pouring in, seasoned actor recalls soon-to-open film he shot two years prior

STEVE GOW
scene@metronews.ca

Bruce Greenwood is a busy actor who has spent much of the last year on set, away from his Los Angeles home.

"Yesterday I found myself reading a script," he says of a rare day off. "I was lying on the couch and I put the script down and fell asleep in the sun. I woke up an hour later and said to my wife, 'We're home. I'm lying on the couch. I could get up and make tea but I don't have to. My bag is not packed.'"

When he isn't on set the actor, best known as Christopher Pike in the rebooted *Star Trek* series, occupies himself in the kitchen.



Bruce Greenwood, right, plays hospital chief of staff Dr. Toby Green opposite Xavier Dolan in *Elephant Song*. CONTRIBUTED

"I'm baking bread," he says. "It's my new thing. I'm making at least a couple of baguettes a day. Usually I make three in a batch, give

two to the neighbours and force the other one on my wife."

In the new psychological thriller *Elephant Song* — just

one of four movies he has in the pipeline — Greenwood as hospital chief of staff Dr. Toby Green is lured into a cat-and-mouse game with Michael, a

Authentic encounter

He decided that when the two characters meet in the film for the first time it might be interesting that, as actors, we were meeting for the first time while the cameras were rolling.

Bruce Greenwood

long-time patient played by Xavier Dolan, who may know the whereabouts of a missing doctor.

Greenwood hadn't met his co-star and Dolan wanted to keep it that way — at least until they shot their first scene.

"He had a great idea early on, which serves to illustrate how willing he is to experiment," says Greenwood. "He decided that when the two characters meet in the film for the first time it might be interesting that, as actors, we were meeting for the first

time while the cameras were rolling. I kind of thought, 'Well, that's a bit of extra lifting I don't think is really necessary.' But he really wanted to try it so I said, 'OK.' When he walked into the room all this stuff started pouring through my system that I couldn't have anticipated. It turned out to be a great idea."

Greenwood has been so busy, he had to rely on journalists to refresh his memory about *Elephant Song*, a movie he shot almost two years ago.

"It is one of those things where if you are doing 10 interviews in a row, the first two interviewers get the short end of the stick because during the interviews you're reminded of what the film was about. By the third interview, 20 minutes in, you remember what it was about the film that excited you and interested you and challenged you. Today after the first couple of interviews I hung up the phone and thought, 'God, those poor people must think I'm an idiot.'"

Olivia Wilde takes a stab at low-budget horror

Casting. Actress has done medical dramas and science fiction, but in *The Lazarus Effect* she kicks it up a notch by trying to bring back the dead

MATT PRIGGE
Metro in New York City

Olivia Wilde has played computer programs (*Tron: Legacy*) and an alien (in a movie for which this would be a spoiler), but in real life she's personable, talkative and friendly. She gets to play both sides of the fence in *The Lazarus Effect*, a low-budget horror in which she's a brilliant scientist experimenting with a serum that can bring the dead back to life — one that winds up being used on her when she's accidentally killed, with horrific consequences.

You've said you're very analytical when it comes to scripts. How did that apply to this project?
I tend to get really analytical with the material. My nickname on a few films has

been *The Logic Police*. Even with this film, where logic seemingly should not count, I still held everyone to the rules we established. That's how I view films. When I watch something, I will buy anything. Any kind of story you want to give me I'm happy to watch — as long as it's consistent with the rules you lay out.

A lot of horror films about scientists tend to be anti-science, but this walks a fine line of being respectful of scientists and wary of some of the deeply flawed and all-too-human actions some characters take.

We didn't want it to seem horribly irresponsible of them. It clearly comes from a passionate place. If you think about how much has been developed in 50 years, it's insane. Triple bypass surgeries happen on a daily basis today; we're used to hearing about people surviving. If you went back and told your great-grandparents that, they'd think you were insane. The idea of a Lazarus serum is not completely off-base. We imagined it would be used to keep someone alive or bring them back to life as they flat-

line during a surgery, let's say — that you just need them to stay alive so you can finish the procedure. That's how we made sense to it. That probably is in the works, because there are things that have been developed to keep a heart pumping during surgery. There's all sorts of technology to keep our bodies moving when they're being taken apart. Having that

logical basis to start from was important to me.

Does that come from playing a doctor on *House* for five years?

Yeah. I really love learning about medical technology, and I have such an enormous respect for doctors. They're superheroes. I wanted to make sure we didn't portray them as horribly irrespon-

sible. I wanted to show they were coming from a good place and that it went horribly wrong. Science is not the enemy. It's human beings who mess up. It's hubris, as always, that leads us to disaster.

This is a horror film that's not stocked with typically horror film actors. You have Mark Duplass, who does

indies, Donald Glover, who's synonymous with comedy, and yourself.

People mostly enjoy watching actors who are not known for horror because maybe they relate to them in a way that puts them in the scary situation the characters are in. It adds to the unpredictability of what horror can do. It's about misdirection.



Olivia Wilde appears in a scene from *The Lazarus Effect*.

DANIEL MCFADDEN/RELATIVITY MEDIA

On motherhood and acting

How much has becoming a mother changed your acting?

- "You can't tell when you watch the movie, but there were three shoots we did where I am 8 1/2 months pregnant. I didn't expect to be working at that stage of pregnancy. But in fact, it was kind of awesome, because my emotions were so close to the surface. I felt capable of anything, any human emotion, from misery to rage to extreme happiness. It's an amazing thing that happens with pregnancy and with motherhood. Since having my son, I feel I'm a better actress. But yeah, I was doing some shots with this huge belly. You'll notice me sometimes saying my lines over my shoulder in a weird way. (Laughs) That would be why."

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Show unexpectedly predicts and depicts Russia-U.S. tensions

For Season 3 of House of Cards, expect the dastardly and newly empowered Frank Underwood to square off against his coldest and most formidable foe yet: Russia.

The geopolitical plotline involving Kevin Spacey's freshly sworn-in president and the distinctly Putin-esque Russian leader Viktor Petrov (Lars Mikkelsen) may feel Xeroxed from the morning paper, but Cards creator Beau Willimon swears the show conceived the conflict first.

"Our concern in the writers' room was that it might be too far afield from reality, because at the time we were conceiving it, nothing was really going on with Russia aside from the Sochi Olympics," Willimon said this week in a telephone interview.

"As we were writing and filming, Crimea erupted, sanctions were introduced, and all of that happened after we had developed our story.

"So it can seem we were ripping from the headlines or trying to somehow par-

allel what was going on in current events, but in truth, I guess current events caught up with us."

With the third season of House of Cards set to hit Netflix on Friday, the Oscar and Emmy nominee was keeping his, ahem, cards close to his chest. But Willimon was willing to share a few details of the upcoming season.

What does Frank's presidency mean for (his wife) Claire?

Willimon: Claire has always been extremely ambitious — the climb to the top hasn't been Frank's alone, it's been this couple. The marriage between Frank and Claire has always been central to House of Cards. I would say it's the core of the story.

That's something we'll be investigating. We've known from the beginning that Claire had a great deal of ambition, now they both find themselves in the White House. What are the outlets for that ambition?

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ambitious characters played by Molly Parker and Mahershala Ali find love in the dark, twisty world of House of Cards. DAVID GIESBRECHT / FOR NETFLIX

Chemistry is in the Cards for characters

TV. Actors Mahershala Ali and Molly Parker talk Remy and Jackie's understated love story

LISA WEIDENFELD
Metro in New York

House of Cards, Netflix's Macbeth-esque look at the extremes to which Frank Underwood and his wife Claire go to achieve and maintain power, is not known for love stories. But that's just what Mahershala Ali's lobbyist Remy Danton and Molly Parker's congresswoman Jackie Sharp find themselves in. We talked to them about why their characters are willing to take risks for love in a power-mad world.

On connection

Mahershala Ali: Remy has a lot of respect for Jackie. Sometimes you just can't explain chemistry, either. I think they hit it off in a way that kind of goes a little bit beyond words. He's just drawn to her. She's an attractive woman who wields a certain degree of power. I think the circles that Remy finds himself in, I think it's been difficult for him to

find a partner. Someone who he can really have a conversation with on that level who he finds attractive, who challenges him.

Molly Parker: I mean, I think that Jackie and Remy have a very pure, hot, physical connection. ... Here's this man who is very much like her in many ways. He has a lot of the same qualities in terms of his intelligence and his ambitions and his willingness to sacrifice his life for power and money, and yet they have this incredibly deep pull towards one another for which they would have to risk all of these other things that they've worked

for in order to be together, because those are the stakes.

On working together

Ali: I really just love working with Molly. And any way that I can get that, I'm really appreciative. I think (writer) Beau Willimon does a wonderful job as far as challenging us as actors and when we sit down and we're kind of co-creating and collaborating,

Molly and I get to really comb through it and try to get to the essence of the relationship and kind of dig into whatever scene it is that we're working on that day.

Like what it means, what it's really about, what's beneath it, what's not really being said.

Parker: They're great scenes. Mahershala Ali is one of the most loving human beings I've ever met, truly, and we have such a great time with that relationship, just as actors, just sort of exploring all of the hidden dynamics of that relationship. It's really fun. He's so lovely.

On what they'll sacrifice to stay together

Ali: I think any time you love someone, you're willing to put yourself out there and take risks for that person. And I think we'll learn more about that this season, but Jackie just holds a special place in his heart. So I definitely think he would put himself out there for her yet again.

Parker: She's had this taste of this power of being in the leadership. At the beginning of the season, we find her in a place where she needs to find a way back to the seat of power and the way in which she does that has tremendous consequences for her personal life.

Creator's commentary

So what happens now?



Frank Underwood has always been a striver. Now that he seemingly has everything he wants, where does he go from here?

"Is there anywhere higher to go? Is the only direction down? Do you have to fight for your life to stay on the summit? This is the stuff of drama. And you'll get answers to all those questions in Season 3," says creator Beau Willimon.



Claire, played by Robin Wright, will see new outlets for her ambition now that she's in the White House, says House of Cards creator Beau Willimon.

DAVID GIESBRECHT FOR NETFLIX

Ricardo is a Canadian chef, television host and author on a mission: To unite people through the pleasure of food. Discover his delicious and simple recipes every Friday — just in time for the weekend

Beat the winter blahs with fresh citrus twist

Entertaining. This Lemon and Basil Scallops dish comes together quickly but will impress dinner guests



RICARDO COOKS
Chef Ricardo
Ricardo Magazine

For a dose of freshness choose recipes that combine savoury seafood and the tang of citrus, like this one, which comes together in less than an hour.

Ingredients

Lemon Cream

- 1 cup (250 ml) 35% cooking cream
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) chicken broth
- Grated zest of 1 lemon
- 1 tsp (5 ml) lemon juice
- Salt and pepper

Basil Oil

- 1/4 cup (60 ml) olive oil
- 1/4 cup (11 g) chopped fresh basil
- 1/2 tsp (2 1/2 ml) lemon juice
- Salt and pepper

Vegetable Julienne

- 1/3 cup (76 g) butter
- 6 carrots, peeled and cut into julienne
- 1 leek, cut into julienne

Scallops

- 20 large scallops
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil
- Salt and pepper



This recipe serves four. COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

Lemon Cream

1. In a saucepan, combine all the ingredients. Cook over medium heat for about 15 minutes to reduce by half. Season with salt and pepper. Keep warm.

Basil Oil

1. Combine all the ingredients in a small food processor or with a whisk. Set aside.

Vegetable Julienne

1. In a skillet, over medium

heat, melt 3 tbsp of butter. Add the vegetables and cook for about 6 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Keep warm.

Scallops

1. With the rack in the middle position, preheat the oven to 375 F (190 C).

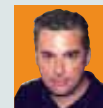
2. In skillet over high heat, add 1 tbsp of the butter and 1 tbsp of the oil. Sear half the scallops for about 1 minute on each side. Season with salt and pep-

per. Set aside on a baking sheet. Repeat with the remaining scallops, butter, and oil. Place the baking sheet in the oven and cook for about 2 minutes.

3. Arrange vegetables in the centre of the plates and the scallops around them. Drizzle with lemon cream and run a thread of basil oil around the edge of plate. **FOLLOW RICARDO ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND ON RICARDOCUISINE.COM OR SUBSCRIBE TO HIS MAGAZINE'S ENGLISH EDITION, WHICH LAUNCHED IN 2014.**

Liquid Assets

New Zealand's bold flavours



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Wine is more than just a drink. It's an experience.

While where you are and who you're with can certainly affect your liquid enjoyment, for me nothing beats combining wine with food.

When I travel, I always look for the opportunity to eat my way into the mind of the winemaker.

You'd think that plan works best in old school wine-producing countries like those in Europe.

Not so. When I was in New Zealand last year, I was impressed by how wineries looked to their regional kitchens for inspiration, and this week's recipe from Chef Ricardo for lime and basil scallops sounds like a page out of the Kiwi cookbook.

In New Zealand, seafood is king and scallops are a national delicacy.

The citrus and herbal elements of Ricardo's dish match perfectly with a wine like Cloudy Bay's 2013 Sauvignon Blanc (\$31.95 - \$36.99), a white with rich, bold flavours that's earned the winery the reputation as one of New Zealand's best producers. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**



Enhance simple salmon

1. In a skillet over high heat, lightly brown the mushrooms in the butter.

Season with salt and pepper. Add the sun-dried tomatoes and cook for 1 minute. Add

the broth. Bring to a boil and simmer over low heat for 3 minutes.

2. In a small bowl, mix together cornstarch and water. Stir into the mushroom mixture and simmer until it thickens, about 1 minute.

3. In a skillet over medium heat, brown the salmon in the oil for about 4 minutes on each side. Season with salt and pepper and sprinkle with the orange zest.



This Roasted Salmon with Mushrooms and Orange recipe makes four servings. COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

4. Serve the salmon on a bed of herbed rice with pine nuts

and garnish with the mushroom sauce. **RICARDO**

Ingredients

- 1/2 lb (225 g) each oyster mushrooms, sliced; shiitake mushrooms, stems discarded and caps sliced; brown or white mushrooms, quartered
- 3 tbsp (42 g) butter
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) oil-packed sun-dried tomatoes, drained and chopped

- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) chicken broth
- 1 tbsp cornstarch
- 1 tbsp water
- 1 1/2 lb (675 g) skinless salmon fillet, cut into 4 pieces
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil
- Zest of 1 orange
- Salt and pepper

3 LIME



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NHL

Panthers acquire Jagr from Devils

The Florida Panthers acquired Jaromir Jagr from the New Jersey Devils on Thursday for a second-round pick in June and either Florida or Minnesota's third-round pick in 2016.

Jagr had 11 goals and 18 assists in 57 games this season for New Jersey. His playing time has been cut recently and he has gone eight games without a point.

Jagr is sixth in NHL history with 716 goals, seventh with 1,068 assists and fifth with 1,784 points in 1,530 career regular-season games in 22 years.

The Czech star also has 78 goals and 121 assists in 202 playoff games. He helped Pittsburgh win Stanley Cup titles in his first two seasons in the NHL in 1990-91 and 1991-92.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Blue Jays bring Santana to camp

The Toronto Blue Jays have signed two-time American League Cy Young Award winner Johan Santana to a minor-league contract with an invite to major-league spring training.

Santana, 35, has not appeared in a major-league game since 2012 due to a torn anterior capsule in his pitching shoulder he suffered before the 2013 season while with the New York Mets. The same injury caused him to miss the entire 2011 season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Maple Leafs roll out welcome mat for Sill

NHL. Nova Scotian brings a physical presence to Toronto's evolving roster

Zach Sill's hockey career is known in part for a relentless chirp he laid on Leafs captain Dion Phaneuf last winter that was caught by HBO's 24-7 cameras.

Now that he's been traded from Pittsburgh to Toronto, he could end up protecting Phaneuf on a Leafs roster begging for more toughness and physical presence.

"I'm an energy guy, probably a fourth-liner, you won't see me put up too many points," Sill said as he joined the Leafs after the Penguins trade that sent Dan Winnik to Pittsburgh in exchange for Sill and a pair of draft picks.

Sill, who was immediately pencilled into the Leafs lineup for Thursday's game against Philadelphia, thanked a throng of reporters waiting at his locker after the morning skate.

That welcome was also extended by Phaneuf, who holds no hard feelings over the chirp.

"I take nothing personally," Phaneuf said.

"And probably on that team (Penguins), he had a job to do, and I don't take that personally at all."

Phaneuf, and the Leafs, were in fact happy to have Sill in the lineup. The 26-year-old brings an obvious energy and enforcer type game to the Leafs, and is apparently the first ever native of Truro,



Zach Sill played his first game for the Maple Leafs on Thursday night, one day after being acquired in a trade. The Leafs beat the Flyers 3-2. For more on the game, go to metronews.ca. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Wheelin' and dealin'

The Maple Leafs swung a couple of deals Thursday.

- They traded winger David Clarkson to the Blue Jackets in exchange for injured

forward Nathan Horton.

- They also acquired defenceman T.J. Brennan from the Blackhawks in exchange for forward Spencer Abbott.

N.S., to play in the Leafs franchise.

"That's pretty cool. Definitely growing up I was a Leafs fan, so it would be pretty neat for me to be the first," Sill said.

With the Leafs in a rebuild mode — but unsure what

level they will reach — the team's roster has been lacking a player like Sill, who fills a bottom-line forward position, but one who earns respect by standing up for his teammates.

Toronto recently faced Carolina and was exposed for

its lack of response to Hurricanes' star Eric Staal, who appeared to drill a slap shot at Phaneuf earlier in the year.

The more Sill's scouting report filtered out in Toronto, the more it appears he could have a very solid opportunity to establish himself as a Leaf.

"He checks hard, he always finishes his checks, he has an edge to him," Leafs coach Peter Horachek said.

"Mike Johnson (Pens coach) has said all good things about him. I think he's a good character guy and he knows his role. He'll be a quality guy to have in our room."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Huskies, underdog Tigers both confident

AUS men's basketball.

Saint Mary's and Dal look to run table at Scotiabank Centre

For the Saint Mary's Huskies and Dalhousie Tigers, the basketball court is now a blank slate, the season's big Atlantic University Sport story yet to be written.

The 2015 Atlantic University Sport men's basketball championship tips off Friday night at the Scotiabank Centre, with the Tigers taking on the Cape Breton Capers at 6 p.m. in the first quarter-final, and the Huskies up against the Memorial Sea-Hawks at 8:15 p.m. in the second quarter-final.

"We are defending champs, but everyone still has the same chance, especially now in playoffs, to win," fourth-year guard Jeremy McAvoy said following Huskies practice Thursday at the Homburg Health & Wellness Centre.

"We have to work for it," the 23-year-old from Dartmouth said of potentially claiming a second straight AUS title. "And win three games in a row to get it."

The Huskies came into the 2014-15 season as the team to beat, but "started off a little slow," McAvoy admitted.

Saint Mary's has since picked up momentum, playing a more consistent game on the court since Christmas, but finished third in the standings overall, which means missing out on a bye straight to Saturday's semifinals.

"We're riding a pretty good streak right now," McAvoy said. "So we feel pretty good



Dalhousie Tigers guard Ritchie Kanza Mata just before hitting the court for practice Thursday at Dalplex, in preparation for this weekend's 2015 AUS men's basketball championship in Halifax. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Tournament schedule

The AUS men's basketball championship will be held at the Scotiabank Centre.

- **Friday:** Quarter-final 1, Dalhousie vs. Cape Breton, 6 p.m.; quarter-final 2, Memorial vs. Saint Mary's, 8:15 p.m.

- **Saturday:** Semifinal 1, Dalhousie/Cape Breton vs. UNB, 6 p.m.; semifinal 2, Memorial/Saint Mary's vs. UPEI, 8:15 p.m.

- **Sunday:** Championship match, 4:30 p.m.

For more, go to aushoops.ca.

going into it — we know what we have to do."

The Huskies remain "confi-

dent," he said.

Third-year Dalhousie guard Ritchie Kanza Mata echoed

that sentiment after practice Thursday.

"Everyone's pretty confident," the 23-year-old from Scarborough, Ont., said inside Dalplex. "It's been a much better season compared to last year."

Dalhousie failed to make the playoffs last year, but took the league by surprise early this season, when the young underdog squad came out stronger than expected.

The Tigers managed to top the Huskies 72-54 on Nov. 21, before Saint Mary's got even on Jan. 31, beating

Dalhousie 79-67.

Kanza Mata has high hopes even after the loss of starting forwards Jonathan Kamba to a stress fracture and Devon Stedman to a knee injury earlier this season. Dalhousie still finished fifth overall.

"We still consider ourselves contenders," Kanza Mata said.

"We proved a lot of people wrong," he said. "Now we just have to do that again, because it's just like the beginning of the season ... (and) everybody's excited and ready to go out there and just perform."

AUS women's basketball

Capers, Panthers moving on

The Saint Mary's Huskies and Dalhousie Tigers know now whom they'll tip off against Friday in semifinal women's basketball action.

The Huskies, who finished first in the regular season, play the Cape Breton Capers at noon. The Tigers, who came in second, take on the UPEI Panthers at 2:15 p.m.

The Capers topped the Memorial Sea-Hawks 62-57, while the Panthers beat the UNB Varsity Reds 65-45, in quarterfinals Thursday night to advance.

The 2015 Subway AUS Women's Basketball Championship runs through Sunday at the Scotiabank Centre. **METRO**

AUS hockey

For Huskies and Tigers, it's over

The season officially ended for Halifax's university hockey teams Thursday night.

In men's action, the Saint Mary's Huskies fell 3-2 to the Acadia Axemen in Wolfville, the fifth and final game of AUS semifinals.

In Thursday's other men's semi, the UNB Varsity Reds beat the St. Francis Xavier X-Men 6-3 to claim the best-of-five series.

On the women's side, the Saint Mary's Huskies and Dalhousie Tigers were ousted from their best-of-three semifinals Thursday.

The Huskies fell 3-1 to the Moncton Aigles Bleues, while the Tigers lost by the same score to the St. Francis Xavier X-Women. **METRO**

NBL Canada

Rainmen win streak hits 10

Make that 10 straight.

The Halifax Rainmen hit double digits in their winning streak, and claimed Atlantic Division bragging rights, Thursday night with a 108-94 victory over the Island Storm at the Eastlink Centre in Charlottetown.

Forward Kevin Young led the Rainmen with 20 points and seven rebounds, while point guard Cliff Clinkscales added 16 points and power forward Jermaine Dailey had eight rebounds.

The Rainmen will tip off against the Moncton Miracles in the first round of NBL Canada playoffs. **METRO**



Halifax Mooseheads forward Philippe Gadoury had three points in a 6-3 win over the Chicoutimi Saguenéens on the road Thursday night. JEFF HARPER/METRO

QMJHL. Gadoury has Herd on right road

Good job, Gadoury.

Forward Philippe Gadoury got three points, and helped the Halifax Mooseheads get a 6-3 win Thursday night over the Chicoutimi Saguenéens, in the first of three games in Quebec this week for the Herd.

Gadoury got the scoring started in the last minute of the first with a back-hander into the top corner of the Chicoutimi goal.

After a couple more Moose markers in the second, the overage player from Greenfield Park, Que., helped out on Timo Meier's second of the game on a power play.

Gadoury, who turned 21 on Saturday, then scored unassisted midway through the third.

Connor Moynihan also scored, while Nikolaj Ehlers added a goal and an assist, to power the Herd to their

second straight win.

"It was a good road game," Mooseheads head coach Dominique Ducharme said. "I really liked the way we played."

Meier extended his point-scoring streak to 27 games, while Ehlers is now at 33 games straight.

They'll look to keep that up Friday against the Baie-Comeau Drakkar and Sunday against the Rimouski Océanic. **KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO**

Hernandez trial hears of party night out

NFL. Ex-Patriot ran a \$300 bar tab, smoked pot, danced just hours before Odin Lloyd's death, say witnesses

Ex-New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez ran up a \$300 bar tab and smoked marijuana in the hours before the boyfriend of his fiancée's sister

was shot to death, according to testimony Thursday at his murder trial.

Just over an hour before the killing of Odin Lloyd on June 17, 2013, video surveillance shows Hernandez walking unsteadily at a gas station and dancing near the gas pumps.

The video also shows a co-defendant, Carlos Ortiz, wearing a white towel around his shoulders. A white towel was found near Lloyd's body later in an industrial park not far

At the pub

30

Prosecutors displayed a receipt from the six-person group that showed 30 alcoholic drinks: 11 Hennessy cognacs, 10 Sex on the Beach mixed vodka drinks, seven Bud Lights and two Grey Goose vodkas.

from Hernandez's home.

Prosecutors have said Hernandez left the gas station and drove to Lloyd's home in the

Dorchester section of Boston. A different surveillance video already seen by the jury shows Lloyd getting into the rear passenger side of a car at 2:32 a.m. outside his home.

The prosecutors have not said who they believe shot Lloyd but said Hernandez orchestrated the killing.

Ortiz and another co-defendant, Ernest Wallace, have pleaded not guilty and will be tried separately.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Aaron Hernandez, left, talks to his lawyer on Thursday at his murder trial in Fall River, Mass. CHARLES KRUPA/POOL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries

March 21 - April 20

A clash of egos is likely over the next 24 hours but that's OK. It's time you reminded certain people that you are the boss. Don't go too far though.

♉ Taurus

April 21 - May 21

You will go out of your way to calm someone down but your efforts may not be enough. The fact is their emotions are a bit raw, so make allowances.

♊ Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Ask others for their opinions today but don't let what they say bind you to a certain course of action. Others will respect you more if you act according to your own principles.

♋ Cancer

June 22 - July 23

No one is perfect, not even a Cancer, and if you accept that fact you won't waste valuable time worrying that you failed to live up to expectations.

♌ Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Someone will appeal to your sense of duty but you must not blindly do as they ask. You are willing to help but you must be convinced that what you are doing is for the greater good.

♍ Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You will trust what you are told on the work front today, simply because the person doing the telling is someone you look up to. However, according to the planets they have got it wrong.

♎ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

You cannot solve your problems by throwing cash at them. If anything that will just make matters worse. According to the planets it won't be long before a better way presents itself.

♏ Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Spend as much time as you can with loved ones because over the weekend they will be very busy and you will have things to occupy you as well.

♐ Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

If someone throws their weight around your instinct will be to start throwing things back at them, but don't be too hasty. A more effective response is to ignore them.

♑ Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Be careful when dealing with people in positions of authority today. It does not matter that you are right, what matters is that they have the power.

♒ Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

A loved one will tell you something you don't want to hear today, not least because it involves bad things about a person you like. Their motive is to drive a wedge between you.

♓ Pisces

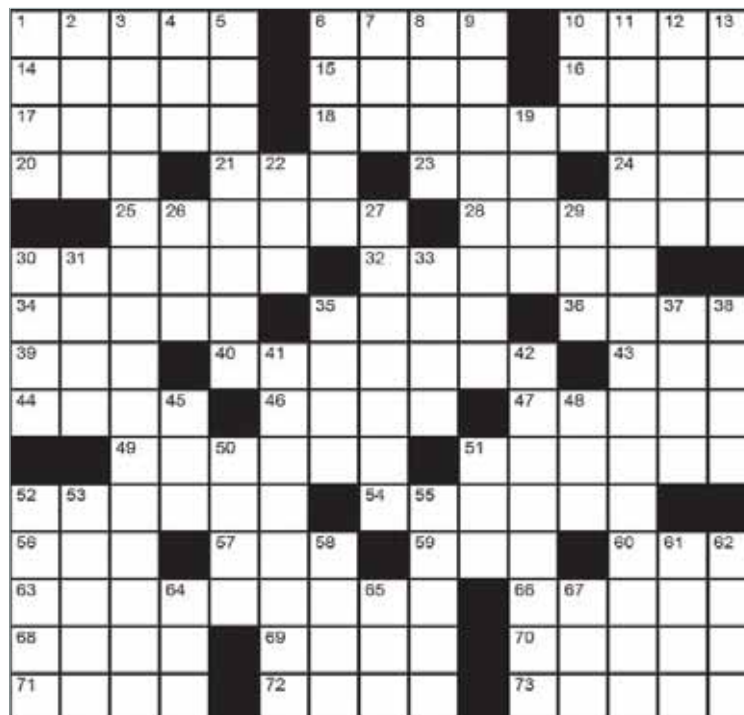
Feb. 20 - March 20

Someone you live or work with will try to take liberties over the next 24 hours and you must not let them get away with it. If they do it once they will try again!

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

Across

1. "Sing, Sing, Sing" drummer, Gene ____ (b.1909 - d.1973)
6. Brood
10. Scheduled date, briefly
14. Banqueted
15. Bee Gees: "More ____ a Woman"
16. Ms. Kunis
17. Annually, ____ year
18. New Brunswick community known for a tragic 1959 storm
20. Old English letter
21. Curly's pal
23. ____-Fi
24. Personal history blurb
25. Guarantee
28. Coach in Archie Comics
30. Workshop tools
32. Sun: French
34. Primitive painter of France, ____ 'Le Douanier' Rousseau
35. A-F link
36. Batch
39. 'Prop' suffix (Fuel)
40. Spectators' cry of double displeasure
43. Spring month
44. Mrs. Lincoln's maiden name
46. Emily Carr book, ____ Wyck
47. Janis Joplin's nickname
49. Red Square city
51. Arctic Circle = ____



Arctique

52. Music-listener's purchase
54. Mr. John of CBC comedy "Mr. D"
56. Angle type, briefly
57. Sundance Film Festival actor ...his initials-sharers
59. Mythical bird
60. Gremlin

63. Frisbee's friend
66. Vietnam's capital
68. Prefix meaning 'Within'
69. Friend for Francoise
70. Spew
71. Curious George co-writers Margret and H.A.
72. Front-of-the-pack

- position
73. Cheeky

Down

1. "Mother-in-Law": 1961 hit for Ernie ____
2. Tangerine part
3. Righteous Brothers hit: 2 wds.
4. Baseball great, " ____ Wee" Reese
5. Eve's origins: 2 wds.
6. Turn
7. Hesitant sounds
8. Quebec 'lakes'
9. Moose ____, Canadian parka company
10. "Who ____ to say?"
11. Virgil's smuggled

- goods in Mordecai Richler's 1959 novel The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz: 2 wds.
12. SVP part
13. Old El Paso creations
19. "The Green ____" (1999)
22. 'Humor' suffix
26. Sun. message
27. Shuns
29. ' ____' for Elmira
30. Excellent, in slang
31. Stand-up guy Jay
33. Garfield's pal
35. Western-style tie
37. Actor, James ____ Jones
38. Actor Noah
41. Wild West - 1881: Legendary gunfight site in Arizona, ____
42. Song by Canadian band Walk Off The Earth
45. Val- ____, Quebec
48. Hosp. units
50. Parched
51. ____-Magnon Man
52. Post-rehab state
53. Bluegrass musician, ____ Burnett
55. Recommended strongly
58. Ditto
61. Supermodel Kate
62. Sympathy
64. Feb. and Mar.
65. Ms. Peebles
67. Title in Turkey, variantly

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at
metronews.ca/answers



Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

5	1	6	4	9	2	8	7	3
8	4	7	1	6	3	5	9	2
2	9	3	8	7	5	6	4	1
3	6	4	5	2	8	9	1	7
1	8	9	6	3	7	4	2	5
7	5	2	9	1	4	3	8	6
9	2	1	3	4	6	7	5	8
6	7	5	2	8	9	1	3	4
4	3	8	7	5	1	2	6	9

				9	1	7		8
	1						6	
	4		2				1	
9				5		3		
	3				6			
8		1				2		
7			4		3			
3							4	
8		5	7	6				

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